

THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method for information exchange, comprising the steps of:

- operating an information exchange system including a production studio coupled to remote data processing equipment by both (a) a satellite connection and (b) a non-satellite connection separate from the satellite connection;
- producing information transmissions in a broadcast standard, the information transmission including (a) a real-time video stream and (b) non-video data;
- sending the information transmissions live from the production studio;
- digitizing the sent information transmissions and then transmitting the digitized information transmissions via the satellite connection as IP multicast packets;
- receiving the information transmission by a TV decoder and feeding them into a data and/or communications network for delivery to the remote data processing equipment;
- displaying the information transmission received via the satellite at a display device of the remote data processing equipment, including displaying both (a) the satellite-transmitted real-time video stream and (b) the satellite-transmitted non-video data;
- receiving via a user input of the remote data processing equipment user interaction with the satellite-transmitted non-video data displayed at the display device of the remote data processing equipment; and
- transmitting the user interaction with the satellite-transmitted non-video data from the remote data processing equipment to the production studio via the non-satellite connection, such that a real-time interactive communication is established between the satellite-transmitted information transmission and the non-satellite-transmitted user interaction.

2. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein access to an information transmission and/or use of the functions provided by the information transmission occurs as a function of access authorization.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim I, wherein access to an information transmission occurs after access to the portal and call-up of a link for information transmission.

4. (Original) The method according to Claim 2, wherein access authorizations are sent by email and/or an SMS method to a selected group of persons.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the non-satellite connection between the production studio coupled to remote data processing equipment comprises a virtual private network (VPN) separate from the satellite connection.

6. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein speech communication occurs as voiceover IP (VoIP) via an audio feedback channel.

7. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein playback of the information transmission on the data processing equipment, like PCs or workplace computers, occurs with one or more Web browsers.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein, for playback of information transmissions in a Web browser, multiple windows are provided.

9. (Original) The method according to Claim 8, wherein the windows provided for playback of information transmissions in a Web browser are sent in full screen representation.

10. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the software, after log-on at a portal, is installed by an initial applet on the data processing equipment or software installed on the data processing equipment is updated after log-on at the portal.

11. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the functions provided by the information transmission include

- execution and/or evaluation of surveys,
- execution and/or evaluation of multiple choice tests (MCT),
- layout, connection and/or management of telephone connections,
- data transmission, especially text transmission, between the data processing equipment and production studio and/or management.

12. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein surveys and/or tests are designed as HTML-programmed files.

13. (Original) The method according to Claim 11, wherein a time limitation is stipulated for processing of surveys and/or tests and after this time elapses, the survey and/or test files are automatically closed for processing.

14. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein data and/or files, like text files, sent to the production studio and/or management are conveyed as email and/or as SMS messages to one or more designatable receivers.

15. (Original) The method according to Claim 1, wherein the method is carried out in a computer program which can be downloaded from an electronic data network, like the Internet, to a data processing unit connected to the data network.

16. (Previously Presented) An arrangement with at least one processor and/or chip setup so that a method for information exchange can be carried out, comprising:

- means for producing information transmissions in a broadcast standard to be sent live from a production studio, the information transmission including (a) a real-time video stream and (b) non-video data;

- a digitizer for digitization of the sent information transmissions and for the transmission of the digitized information transmissions via a satellite connection as IP multicast packets;

- a TV decoder remote from the production studio for receiving the IP multicast packets that feeds the received IP multicast packets into a data and/or communications network for delivery to remote data processing equipment;

- a display device of the remote data processing equipment that displays the information transmission received via the satellite, including displaying both (a) the satellite-transmitted real-time video stream and (b) the satellite-transmitted non-video data;

- a user input of the remote data processing equipment that receives user interaction with the satellite-transmitted non-video data displayed at the display device of the remote data processing equipment;

means for transmitting the user interaction with the satellite-transmitted non-video data from the remote data processing equipment to the production studio via a non-satellite connection separate from the satellite connection, such that a real-time interactive communication is established between the satellite-transmitted information transmission and the non-satellite-transmitted user interaction.

17. (Previously Presented) A computer program product stored on a computer readable storage medium for, when run on a computer, carrying out a method for information exchange, comprising the steps of:

- producing information transmissions in a broadcast standard, the information transmission including (a) a real-time video stream and (b) non-video data;
- sending the information transmissions live from a production studio;
- digitizing the sent information transmissions and then transmitting the digitized information transmissions via a satellite connection as IP multicast packets;
- receiving the IP multicast packets by a remote TV decoder and feeding them into a data and/or communications network for delivery to remote data processing equipment;
- displaying the information transmission received via the satellite at a display device of the remote data processing equipment, including displaying both (a) the satellite-transmitted real-time video stream and (b) the satellite-transmitted non-video data;
- receiving via a user input of the remote data processing equipment user interaction with the satellite-transmitted non-video data displayed at the display device of the remote data processing equipment; and
- transmitting the user interaction with the satellite-transmitted non-video data from the remote data processing equipment to the production studio via the non-satellite connection, such that a real-time interactive communication is established between the satellite-transmitted information transmission and the non-satellite-transmitted user interaction.

18. (Original) The computer program product according to Claim 17, wherein the computer program can be downloaded from an electronic data network, like the Internet, to a data processing unit connected to the data network.

19. (Previously Presented) A method for information exchange, comprising the steps of :

- producing information transmissions in a broadcast standard wherein the information transmissions include real-time video TV information and non-video digital information;
- sending the information transmissions live from a production studio to a remote TV decoder via a satellite connection;
- receiving the information transmissions at the remote TV decoder;
- extracting the real-time video information and non-video digital information from the information transmissions;
- feeding the extracted video and digital information into remote data processing equipment coupled to the remote TV decoder and connecting the data processing equipment to a data and/or communication network and accessing a main data processing equipment associated with the studio through the data and/or communication network;
- displaying the information transmissions received via the satellite at a display device of the remote data processing equipment, including displaying both (a) the satellite-transmitted real-time video TV information and (b) the satellite-transmitted non-video digital information;
- receiving via a user input of the remote data processing equipment user interaction with the satellite-transmitted non-video digital information displayed at the display device of the remote data processing equipment; and
- transmitting the user interaction with the satellite-transmitted non-video digital information from the remote data processing equipment to the production studio via the non-satellite connection separate from the satellite connection, such that a real-time interactive communication is established between the satellite-transmitted information transmission and the non-satellite-transmitted user interaction.

20. (Original) The method according to Claim 19, further including the step of authorizing the access to the main data and/or communication equipment associated with the studio.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 19, wherein the step of connecting the data processing equipment includes the step of using a portal connection.

22. (Original) The method according to Claim 20, wherein access authorizations are sent by email and/or an SMS method to a selected group of persons.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 19, wherein non-satellite connection between the production studio coupled to remote data processing equipment comprises a virtual private network (VPN) separate from the satellite connection.

24. (Original) The method according to Claim 19, wherein speech communication occurs as voiceover IP (VoIP) via an audio feedback channel.

25. (Original) The method according to Claim 19, wherein playback of the video and digital information on the data processing equipment, like PCs or workplace computers, occurs with one or more Web browsers.

26. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 1, wherein, for playback of video and digital information in a Web browser, multiple windows are provided.

27. (Original) The method according to Claim 26, wherein the windows provided for playback of information transmissions in a Web browser are sent in full screen representation.

28. (Original) The method according to Claim 19, wherein a software, after connection to the main data processing equipment, is installed by an initial applet on the data processing equipment or software installed on the data processing equipment is updated after the connection.

29. (Original) The method according to Claim 19, wherein the functions provided by the digital information include

- execution and/or evaluation of surveys,
- execution and/or evaluation of multiple choice tests (MCT),
- layout, connection and/or management of telephone connections,
- data transmission, especially text transmission, between the data processing equipment and production studio and/or management.

30. (Original) The method according to Claim 29, wherein surveys and/or tests are designed as HTML-programmed files.

31. (Original) The method according to Claim 29, wherein a time limitation is stipulated for processing of surveys and/or tests and after this time elapses, the survey and/or test files are automatically closed for processing.

32. (Original) The method according to Claim 19, wherein data and/or files, like text files, sent to the production studio and/or management are conveyed as email and/or as SMS messages to one or more designatable receivers.

33. (Original) The method according to Claim 19, wherein the method is carried out in a computer program which can be downloaded from an electronic data network, like the Internet, to a data processing unit connected to the data network.